

**IN THE CLAIMS**

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for performance-improving emission of exhaust gases from internal combustion engines in submarines into the water surrounding the submarines, the method comprising:

~~characterized in that~~ mixing the exhaust gases and a water flow, ~~which is taken from the water surrounding the submarines and is produced in a pump device,~~ are mixed with one another in a reduced-pressure field, ~~with the reduced pressure of the reduced-pressure field being produced by a reduction in the cross-sectional area of the water flow before mixing, and with the reduction in the cross-sectional area being carried out in such a manner that an accelerated water flow in the form of a hollow cylinder is produced, and with the hollow-cylindrical water flow being caused to rotate by means of a stationary device, for example by stationary swirl producing means, such as blades.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein

~~characterized in that~~ the exhaust gases are introduced into the interior of the hollow-cylindrical water flow which is produced by a stationary device.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2,~~ wherein

~~characterized in that~~ the exhaust gases are also passed to the outside of the hollow-cylindrical water flow.

4. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, 2 or 3,

wherein characterized in that the exhaust gas is caused to rotate in the opposite direction to the hollow-cylindrical water flow, ~~for example by swirl producing means, for example blades.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~ 1, wherein characterized in that the exhaust-gas flow is caused to form a hollow-cylindrical shape, ~~for example by means of a displacement body in the exhaust gas flow.~~

6. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one or more of the preceding claims,~~ characterized in that claim 1, wherein the exhaust-gas flow is cooled, ~~for example by means of water injection, in order to~~ reduce its volume before being introduced into the reduced-pressure field.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in ~~one or more of the preceding claims,~~ claim 1, wherein characterized in that the exhaust gas is subject to a pressure increase, ~~for example in a widened exhaust gas outlet pipe with a diffuser effect,~~ after it has been mixed with the water flow and has passed through the reduced-pressure field.

8. (Currently Amended) A device for ~~carrying out the method for emission~~ emitting of exhaust gases from internal combustion engines in submarines into the water surrounding the submarines, comprising:

a reduced-pressure chamber to mix the exhaust gases and a water flow, taken from the water surrounding the submarines and produced in a pump device, with one another in a reduced-

pressure field, the reduced pressure of the reduced-pressure field being produced by a reduction in the cross-sectional area of the water flow before mixing, the reduction in the cross-sectional area being carried out in such a manner that an accelerated water flow in the form of a hollow cylinder is produced, and the hollow-cylindrical water flow being caused to rotate; and

a stationary exhaust-gas pipe to introduce ~~with the exhaust gases being introduced into the device, by means of a stationary exhaust gas pipe, as claimed in one or more of the preceding claims, with the device being in the form of a stationary exhaust-gas/water mixer and having a reduced pressure chamber.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

~~characterized in that~~ a guidance device for the mixing water, is arranged upstream of the reduced-pressure chamber in the flow direction, and ~~has~~ including an annular cross section so as to form a hollow-cylindrical waterjet.

10. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim ~~8~~ or 9, wherein

~~characterized in that~~ a guidance device for the exhaust gas is arranged upstream of the reduced-pressure chamber in the flow direction and ~~has~~ includes an annular cross section, so that the exhaust gas flows out in the form of a hollow cylinder.

11. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein

~~characterized in that~~ the guidance device for the water has includes guidance elements, in particular guide vanes with a cycloid shape, which can to cause the water to rotate.

12. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 11, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the guidance device for the exhaust-gas flow ~~has includes~~ guidance elements, ~~in particular blades with a cycloid shape,~~ by means of which the exhaust gas ~~can be~~ is caused to carry out a rotating movement, ~~in particular a rotating movement in the opposite direction to the water flow.~~

13. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 8 to 12,~~ further comprising ~~characterized in that the device has~~ a radial pump for production of the water flow.

14. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 8 to 12,~~ further comprising ~~characterized in that the device has~~ an axial pump for production of a waterjet.

15. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 8 to 14,~~ characterized in that the device has further comprising a line for mixing the cooling water that is required by the internal combustion engine with the water flow in the device.

16. (Currently Amended) The device, as claimed in claim 8, further comprising one or more of claims 8 to 15, ~~characterized in that the device has~~ an inner displacement body for exhaust gas and water, which is arranged centrally in the device.

17. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising one or more of claims 8 to 16,

~~characterized in that the device has~~ coaxial guidance tubes for the exhaust-gas flow and the water flow, with the exhaust gas being guided on the inside and the water on the outside.

18. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising one or more of claims 8 to 17, ~~characterized in that the device has~~ a cooling device for the exhaust gas that is supplied.

19. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 8, further comprising at least one ~~one or more of claims 8 to 18~~, ~~characterized in that the device has~~ shut-off devicemeans and a position, monitoring and control device for the supplied exhaust gas and the water, ~~in particular with a monitoring and control device which is connected to a marine vessel or engine control system.~~

20. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 19, wherein ~~characterized in that the~~ monitoring device has a locking circuit for shutdown and a starting mode with regulated movement of the shut-off meansdevice.

21. (Currently Amended) The device as claimed in claim 19 ~~or 20~~, further comprising ~~characterized in that the device has~~ non-return valves, ~~in particular with position monitoring~~, for the exhaust-gas or water flows.

22. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 8 to 21~~, ~~characterized in that~~ claim 8, wherein the device is used to increase the performance of the boosted diesels for submarines when snorkeling.

23. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in ~~one or more of claims 8 to 22,~~  
~~characterized in that~~claim 8, wherein the device is used to prevent exhaust-gas emission into the atmosphere for surface vessels, in particular for surface vessels with internal combustion engines distributed in the marine vessel.

24. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in claim 22, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the device is used at the stern of the marine vessel,~~in particular in the flow lee of the fin or of the fin base.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in claim 22, ~~or 24,~~  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the device is used in the fin of the submarine.

26. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the device is used for in each case one internal combustion engine,~~for example in each case one diesel engine,~~ in different marine vessel safety areas of a naval vessel.

27. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in claim 23, ~~or 26,~~  
~~characterized in that~~wherein the device is used for surface vessels for emission of the other exhaust gases which are produced in the marine vessel,~~for example the exhaust air from the air conditioning system,~~ or for reformer exhaust gases from fuel-cell modules.

28. (Currently Amended) The exhaust-gas emission device as claimed in ~~one or more of the preceding claims~~

~~characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the device is used with an adjustable outlet-flow diffuser for matching the different exhaust-gas emission depths.

29. - 31. (Cancelled)

32. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hollow-cylindrical water flow is caused to rotate via the device including blades.

33. (New) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the exhaust gases are also passed to the outside of the hollow-cylindrical water flow.

34. (New) The device as claimed in claim 20, further comprising non-return valves for the exhaust-gas or water flows.